GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2022
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2000
TOLL TAX COLLECTED BY STATE GOVERNMENTS
P.D. ELANGOVAN

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments are collecting toll tax within the premises of the centrally protected monuments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total toll tax collected by the State Governments at these premises during the last three years and during the current year, till date, State-wise, year-wise;

(d) the reasons for giving permission to State authorities to collect toll tax in centrally protected monuments of ASI against the ancient monument and Archaeological Site Remains Act, 1958 and Rules of 1959 made thereunder; and

(e) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

(a)&(b) Under the Uttar Pradesh Urban Planning and Development Act, 1973, toll is being collected by the Agra Development Authority from the tourists for the use of approach road and other amenities from their booths at the Taj Mahal, Sikandra, Agra Fort and Itimad-ud-daula Tomb at Agra.

(c) As per the details furnished by the Agra Development Authority Toll tax collected for the last three years and during the current year from their ticketing booths in the above four monuments is as follows :-

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1997-98   - 315.82 Lakhs
1998-99   - 359.20 Lakhs
1999-2000  - 719.69 Lakhs
2000-2001  - 334.94 Lakhs
upto 31 July, 2000
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(d) & (e) Toll for amenities is collected by the Agra Development Authority from the tourists under the Uttar Pradesh Urban Planning and Development Act, 1973. No permission has been accorded for collection of toll in the protected premises, under the Ancient Monuments, Archaeological Sites and Remains Rules 1959.